

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 192

By Southerland

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Jennifer Bridges, the
2020–2021 John Hay Elementary School
Teacher of the Year.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to
specially recognize those outstanding teachers who have devoted their careers to providing the
highest quality education for Tennessee's students; and

WHEREAS, Jennifer Bridges is one such estimable educator, who has distinguished
herself as a professional of the greatest dedication, ability, and integrity; and

WHEREAS, a third-grade math, science, and social studies teacher at John Hay
Elementary School, Ms. Bridges was recently named the school's 2020–2021 Teacher of the
Year, a most befitting honor for her tenure as an educator, as it recognizes the positive
influence she has on so many young lives; and

WHEREAS, in her classroom, Jennifer Bridges incorporates hands-on, real-life
applicable lessons as well as best-practice reading concepts into the subject areas she teaches;
and

WHEREAS, during the COVID-19 pandemic when students were unable to meet and
many did not have the technology at home to engage in remote learning, Ms. Bridges and a
colleague began weekly deliveries that provided students with writing supplies, books, at-home
science labs, and other self-contained educational materials; they also delivered food to those
students who typically received food bags during the school year; and

WHEREAS, Jennifer Bridges always goes above and beyond for her students; in
addition to tutoring at John Hay Elementary School and with the Douglas Cherokee Tutoring

Program, she engages late bus riders in small-group instruction after school, and she has served as the cheerleading coach for the past six years; and

WHEREAS, a graduate of Carson-Newman University, Ms. Bridges was inspired to become a teacher by her parents—her father, Barry, a nurse who taught her compassion for others, and her mother, Pam, who has been dedicated to the field of education for thirty years; she is also grateful for the love and support of her siblings, Brynna and Chantry Bridges; and

WHEREAS, Jennifer Bridges is an extremely talented and compassionate educator who has worked assiduously throughout her career in education to motivate her students, fellow teachers, and staff to reach their full potential as scholars, professionals, and citizens; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Bridges truly serves as an inspiration to the faculty and staff at John Hay Elementary School, and her friendship and counsel are highly valued by those who are fortunate to know her; and

WHEREAS, Jennifer Bridges epitomizes the dedicated educator who is wholly committed to the highest ideals of public service and quality education for all, and she should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and congratulate Jennifer Bridges on being chosen as the 2020–2021 John Hay Elementary School Teacher of the Year, commend her exceptional service to the children of Tennessee, salute her professional expertise and personal excellence, and wish her all the best in her future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.